

August 29, 1969

MEMO TO: Mayor Hugh J. Addonizio and other officials

FROM: Councilman Horace P. Sharper

RE: 1) New Careers and Grand Jury Presentment  
2) T.E.A.M. - Application  
3) Bernice Bass Radio Program  
4) Recommendations of the Grand Jury  
5) Position of Councilman H. P. Sharper

1: In the Grand Jury Presentment to Hon. Judge James R. Giuliano of Essex County, it was pointed out that the New Careers Program was ruined by a) the City Administration and some City Council members, 2) malfeasance and mis-management by the Directors of T.E.A.M., U.C.C., and by the Community Development Administration.

2: That some \$350,000 which constituted one third of the total trainee payroll, was spent illegally in the summer of 1963 by devious means.

3: Also the Jury recommended that New Careers program be given to a new sponsor that would be insulated from political interference from City Hall, and further, it urged that all federal programs in Newark be comprehensively investigated and examined, to insure that other programs of help to the poor be spared such dishonest treatment.

4: I, Horace P. Sharper, Councilman from the South Ward of the City of Newark, N.J., do hereby make my position clear and do set forth my intent:

That until the respective Directors of the following agencies: Arthur Jones, T.E.A.M.; Dr. Sylvester Odom, U.C.C.; and Donald Malafronte, Community Development Administration, either refute successfully the findings of the above presentment, or resign from their present positions, I cannot vote on any matter pertaining to the application of T.E.A.M. for the year 1969-1970.

That until the Mayor and the particular Councilmen either absolve themselves of all guilt, or prove their innocence in this presentment, I demand that they resign.

That the Council note that to move the New Careers program from one street address to another, while allowing T.E.A.M. to administer its programs, is just an exercise in futility. The program, except for Mr. Barnes, is still under Mrs. Larrie Stalks, et al, and she too should either resign, or show what became of, and/or who stole, or who absconded with, or who mis-handled, or who unintentionally misappropriated federal funds to the tune of \$350,000.

5: If it is right to handle federal funds, or the taxpayers monies in such fashion, then it would be reasonable for each Councilman to preside over a pile of cash and to administer it as he sees fit ... however, I refuse to accept such an assignment.

6: If it is wrong, and if the Presentment is true, then I demand resignations from all guilty parties.

7: I also demand that the Nixon Administration either respect the integrity of the Grand Jury and see to it that justice plumbs the line, or allow every citizen the same chance to feather his nest.

8: I hereby demand that an impartial panel be set up to take over New Careers, and that a Monitoring Committee be convened by the Newark Chamber of Commerce, to investigate all federal programs in Newark.

MORE

MEMO FROM COUNCILMAN HORACE P. SHARPER, cont.

9: I further urge that Mrs. Larrie Stalks be instructed by the Mayor to postpone her radio career until this matter is cleared up, or allow me, and others, to come on her broadcast and cross-examine her to the fullest degree before the public.

10: I also urge that City Hall and radio station W.N.J.R. allow Mrs. Bass to resume her former broadcast, or face the wrath of the public that is sick and tired of the growing list of City Hall being involved in questionable money transactions, and handling of public funds, and public trust.

11: May I remind the Mayor and the Council that there are some Citizens of Newark, including this Councilman, that will not rest until the New Careers Program is cleared up satisfactorily.

Remember, I did not at this time mention the Blazers mess of one or two years ago, nor the Thigpen, N.H.A. scandal of four or five years ago, where Mr. Thigpen was dismissed summarily, but in these latter cases, Directors of Program in question were just shifted from one program to another, and the unresolved mess swept under the rug of political silence, with a concurring abyssmal silence from members of the City Council.

The Grand Jury has set the stage for the drama, now let the actors play their roles in stellar grandeur.

Horace P. Sharper  
Councilman, South Ward  
Newark, New Jersey

cc: The City Clerk  
Members of the City Council  
Directors: T.E.A.M.  
C.D.A.  
N.C.C.  
Daniel P. Monaghan  
Judge James R. Quiliano  
Mrs. Larrie Stalks  
Labor Department  
All news media